# READ It Here Now---Then SEE It All in Moving Pictures EXPOINTS Elaine MOTION PICTURE DRAMA Presented by This Newspaper in Collaboration With the Famous Pathe Players.

A DETECTIVE NOVEL

Featuring

Miss Pearl White ..... Elaine Dodge 

The Chinese Master Criminal WRITTEN BY ARTHUR B. REEVE The Well-Known Novelist and the Creator of the "Craig Kennedy" Stories Dramatized Into a Photo-Play by Chas. W. Goddard, Author of "The Perils of Pauline."

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The New York police are mystified by a series of murders and other drimes. The principal due to the criminals is a warning letter which is sent the victims signed with a "clutching hand." The liaiest victim of the mysterious assarsing the Taylor Dodge, the wealthy insurance president. His daughter, Elaine, employs Craig Kennedy, the famous scientific detective, to try to unravel the mystery. What Kennedy accomplishes is told by his friend, Jameson, a newspaper man.

Enraged at the determined effort which Elaine and Craig Kennedy are making to put an end to his crimes, the Clutching Hand, as this strange criminal is known, resorts to all sorts of the most diabolical schemes to put them out of the way. Each chapter of the story tells of a new plot against their lives and of the way the great detective uses all his skill to save this pretty girl and himself from death. Synopsis of Previous Chapters.

death.

In a careless moment the master criminal leaves a clue in the form of a type-written letter. Through this Kennedy penetrates his disguise and the master criminal is killed in his efforts to escape. The Clutching Hand turns out to be none other than Elaine's own lawyer. Beanett, a man long trusted by her father and fashionable society in general. After Bennett's death a Chinaman, who had been employed by him in some of his criminal operations, learns that the master criminal has hidden away a vast amount of stolen wealth, and his efforts to locate the treasure brings more perist to Elaine and stirs Kennedy to greater achievements in detective skill.

CHAPTER XVL The Mystic Ring

Kennedy had been engaged for some

ticklish point in a Tong murder case.

which had set all Chinatown agog. It was, indeed, a very bewildering case. A shot the arrow out.

Chinaman named Li Chang, leader of the Down the street, back of the board to complete the purchases, they drove to from my gram.

Was nothing else for Craig to do—he Chinese fan which he had used in his as if s bought the ring, and the Chinaman tricks, passed it over my hand, and in "Is M some incomprehensible way I felt the Down the street, back of the board completed her purchases, they drove to from my gram. My feet with the local literally disappear speak. Chang Wah Tong, had been poisoned, fence, where the final conference had but so far no one had been able to deterthat there had been a poison, except for a cigarette doped with optum. the fact that the man was dead, and He jumped to his feet suddenly. With

of Dr. Leslie, auxious for some result.

Have you been able to find out anyaconite, of which you know, the active narrow street. principle is the deadly alkaloid aconttine."

Craig pulled down from the shelf above ing all those whom the glitter of Wu's cussing the affair. him one of his well-thumbed standard money could corrupt.

works on textcology. He turned the Suddenly from the shadows of a narrow

nettvely arances, and, in fact, there is no reliable chemical test to prove its presence. The chances of its detection in the body after death are very slight." Dr. Leslie looked up. "Then there is no test, none?" he asked.

"There is one that is brand new." replied Kennedy slowly. "It is the new starch-grain test just discovered by Prof. Reichert of the University of Pennsyl-The peculiarities of the starch grains of various plants are quite as as those of the blood crystals, which, you will recall, Walter, we used

The starch grains of the peoson have remained in the wound. I have recovered from them the dead man's blood, and have studied them microscopically. They can be definitely recognized. This is plainty a case of aconite poisoning-probably suggested to the Oriental mind by the potson arrows of the Ainus of North-

Dr. Lestle and I both looked through the microscope, comparing the starch grains which Kennedy had discovered with those of scores of micro-photos with which lay scattered over the table.

"There are several treatments for aconite poisoning," ruminated Kennedy. "I would say that one of the latest and best is digitalin given hypodermically." He took down a bottle of digitalin from a cabinet, adding, "only it was too late

Just what the relations were between Long Sin and the Chong Wah Tong I have never been able to determine ex-

actly But one thing was certain; Long Sin on his arrival in New York had offended the Tong, and now that his master. Wu Fang, was here the offense was even greater, for the criminal society brooked no rival. In the dark recesses of a poorly furnished cellar, serving as the Tong head-

quarters, the new tender and several of his most trusted followers were now plotting revenge. Long Sin, they believed, was responsible for the murder, and, with truly oriental guile, they had obtained a hold ever Wu Fang's secretary.

Their plan decided on, the Chinamen left the headquarters and made their Vay reparately uptown. They rejoined one another in the shelter of a rather poor touse, before which was a board fence. in the vicinity of a fachionable apartment house. A moment's conference fol-

Everything you read here today Wu had taken another apartment upyou can see in the fascinating Pathe town in one of the large apartment houses Motion Pictures at the Motion Picture Theaters this week. Next Sun- subtle to operate from his real headday another chapter of "The Exploits quarters back of the squalid exterior of of Elaine" and new Pathe reels. Chinatown.

There Long Sin was now engaged in making all possible provisions for the safety of his master. Anyone who had been walking along the boulevard and had happened to giance up at the roof of the tall apartment building might have seen Long Sin's figure silhouetted against the sky on the top of the mansard roof near a flagpole.

He had just finished fastening to the flagpole a stout rope, which stretched faut across an areaway some twenty or thirty feet wide to the next building. where it was fastened to a chimney, Again and again he tested it and finally. with a nod of satisfaction, descended from the roof and went to the apartment of

There, alone, he paused for a few minutes to gaze in wonder at the cryptic ring which had been the net result so far of his efforts to find the millions which Bennett, as the Clutching Hand, had hidden. He wore it, strangely enough, over his index finger, and as he examined it he shook his head in doubt.

Long Sin went over to a deak and opened a secret box, in which Wu had placed several packages of money with which to bribe those whom he wished to get into his power. It was Long Sin's

No sooner had he gone than the secretary hurried into the room, paused a in gold and silver and carved ivory. moment to make sure that Long Sin was

From a secret hiding place he drew time in the only work outside of the out a small bow and arrow. He sat down

mine what poison it was or even to prove Chinaman, taking an occasional puff at

Kennedy had taken the thing up in a a thud an arrow had buried itself quivgreat measure because of the sudden turn ering in the fence. Quickly he seized n the Dodge case, which had brought us it, drew out the note and read it. into such close contact with the Chinese. In the Canton vernacular, it read

I had been watching Kennedy with in- briefly: "He goes with much money." terest, for the Tong wars always make It was enough. Instantly the startling picturesque newspaper stories, when a news overcame the effect of the dope. If you did you would know what black-direction of the conservatory. There he to the Tong headquarters.

They were waiting for him there, and thing get?" he greeted Kennedy eagerly he had scarcely delivered the message as Craig looked up from his microspope. before their plans were made. One by one, Kennedy looked up quickly at the name Kennedy turned and nodded. "Your they left the headquarters, hiding in door-Cheng Wah Tong, thinking of the indead man was murdered by means of ways, basements and areaways along the

street, lined with the scores of petty Chi-

It was scarcely a second before the noise now, by a strange chance, had come into of the scuffle was heard, but it was too Enine's possession. late. The half dozen Tong men had seized had deftly stripped him of everything to engage a magician?" else of value.

The sound of the approaching policeman now alarmed them. Just as the new Tong leader had raised an axe to bring it down with crushing force on Long Sin's skull a shot rang out and

followers disappeared through dark hall- enthusiastically. ways and alleyways, leaving the policeman with only two prisoners and Long after all," nodded Kennedy to Elaine. Sin lying on the aldewalk.

burly 2rish officer, assisting Long Sin would interest everybody." to his feet, none too gently.

the precious ring, ret he knew to involve oriental hangings which Eleine and Kenhimself in the white man's law would end only in disaster both for him and mysticism. At the far end of the room a shook his head and managed to get away down the street muttering-

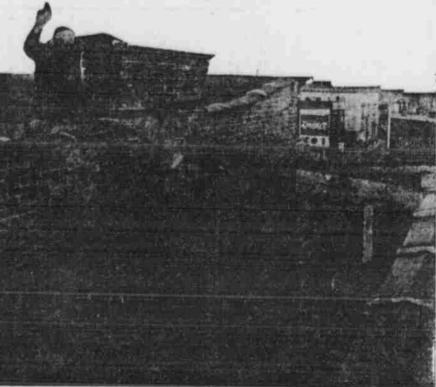
It was the day after his return from Aunt Tabby's that Kennedy called again upon Elaine, to find that she and Aunt Josephine were engaged in the pleasant pastime of arranging an entertainment. back the portleres as he entered. "Oh, good!" cried Elsine as she saw

him. "You are fust in time. I was going to send you thin, but I should much rather give it to you." She handed him a tastefully engraved to sheet of paper, which he read with interest:

Miss Elaine Dodge requests the honor of your presence at an Oriental Recoption on April 6th, at 8 o'clock.

"Very interesting," exclaimed Craig enthusiastically. "I shall be delighted to

come." "Then you must work," she cried



Wu Fang Avoids Capture by Cutting the Rope Over Which Kennedy is Trying to Reach Him.

me along.

She took Kennedy's arm playfully. Among the many places which Elaine had down on her shopping list was a small Chinese curio shop on lower Fifth avenue.

profound bow by the proprietor. He was through with ices on a tray. I called to tabaret and came back with it. the new Tong leader, and this uptown him and he stopped. shop was his cover. In actual fact he

packed the money into a bag, drew his orations. They were about to leave the chanced to see him would have noticed swiftly. coat more closely about him and left the shop when Elaine's eye was attracted by that he passed it two or three times over a little showcase, in which were many the ice; then, lifting the portieres, enquaint and valuable Chinese ornaments tered the drawing room again, "What an odd looking thing?" she said,

"Quite odd," agreed Kennedy. The subtle Chinaman stood by the pile Dodge case which he had consented to at a table and hastily wrote a few Chi- of hangings on the counter which Elaine ness characters on a piece of paper, roll- had bought, overjoyed at such a large Our old friend, Dr. Leslie, the coroner, ing up the note into a thin quill, which sale. Praising the ring to Elaine, he were fascinated with Long Sin, gathered door and saw us. He was aghast. Back door locked. Instantly he whipped out had appealed to him to solve a very he inserted into a prepared place in the turned insinuatingly to Kennedy. There about us. Long Sin fluttered open a of him we could see Marie. She looked his revolver and shot the lock to places. was nothing else for Craig to do-he Chinese fan which had set all Chinatest and the ring, and the Chinese fan which he had used in his as if she had seen a ghost.

We threw ourselves against the door, the broken look cave way and the Chinaman tricks are respect to the ring.

> Kennedy's laboratory. We were in the midst of planning the from the other guests greeted me. I entertainment when a slight cough be-There stood Long Sin, the astute China- plainly on me. He smiled, made annan who had delivered the bomb to Ken- other pass with the fan and instantly the

"I am in great trouble, Prof. Kennedy," began Long Sin in a low tone. "You ing Elaine. He had already taken an ice don't know the Chinese of the city, but from the walter and was going in the mailers there are among them. I have found her. refused to pay blackmail to the Chong Wah tong, and since then it has been handing it to her. trouble, trouble, trouble."

vestigation which the coroner had asked him to make into the murder. He and Long Sin was making his rounds, visit- Long Sin moved a few steps away, dis-

Elaine and I were still talking over the entertainment. "Pure aconitine is probably the most nese merchants, half a dozen lithe and deak near Long Sin. My back was to-She happened to place her hand on the polsonous substance with which murderous figures leaped out behind Long ward him, and I did not see him start think that Elaine will object if you play we are acquainted. It does not produce Sin and seized him. He struggled, but suddenly and look at her hand. On it the host for a little while with Aunt was the ring-the ring which, unknown Josephine," he hinted. Anyone who has visited Chinatown to us, Long Sin had found in the passageknows that at every corner and bend of way under Aunt Tabby's garden, of tasted the ice. He had taken only a

> "The lady speaks of an oriental re- He rose quickly. A cold sweat seemed the money which Long Sin carried and ception," he remarked. "Would she care to break out all over him. His nerves

asked, puzzied.

the axe fell from the broken wrist of the his hand almost directly before us, he he had fallen near the fountain, and In another moment the policeman had made a few sleight-of-hand passes, and one hand dropped over into the water. seized him. Then followed a sharp fight, prestot the bottle had disappeared. A As he fell back he seemed to have only in which the Tong men's knowledge of few more passes, and a test tube appeared just enough strength to withdraw his Hu-jitsu stood them in good stead. The in its place. Before we knew it he had hand from the fountain. On the stone policeman was huried aside, the Tong caused the test tube to disappear and coping, slowly and laboriously, he moved leader broke away, and, one by one, his the bottle to reappear. We all applauded his ringer.

"I don't think that is such a bad idea "Perhaps not," she agreed, a little But the ring and the money were gone. doubtfully. "I hadn't intended to have "Are you hurt much?" demanded the such a thing, but-why, of course, that

Long Sin was furious over the loss of Dodge library was transformed. The It was the night of the reception. The pletform had been arranged to form a stage or which Long Sin was to perform his sleight-of-hand. The drawing room

niso was decorated like the library. Almost everybody had arrived when Elaine turned to the guests and introduced Long Sin with a little speech Long Jennings announced Craig and held Sin bowed, and everyone applauded. He made his way to the platform in the li-

brary and mounted it. I shall not attempt to describe the amazing series of tricks which he performed. His hands and fingers seemed things, I remember, he took up a cover We watched with anxiety. Finally Kenfrom a table near by. He held it up be- nedy's eyes opened, and gradually his fore us. Instantly it seemed that a breathing seemed to become more norflock of pigeons flew out of it around mal. the room. How he did it I don't know. They were real pigeons, however, and Kennedy was considerably broken up the trick brought down the house.

peated as I happened to meet Elaine did not feel like himself. We walked into the conservatory In the excitement of leaving Elaine's towed and then the secretary glided away. Sally. You are just in time to help me while the guests were crowding around we had forgotten the bottle of digital

buy the decorations. No objections- | Long Sin. She seated herself for the

first time during the evening. "May I get you an ice" I suggested. passed through the drawing room I

did not notice that Long Sin had man-A moment later Long Sin himself took

Elaine explained what it was she wanted, he hastily drew a bottle from his pocket. He made the circuit of the rooms in

such a way as to bring himself out di- sage in my name. Together Elaine and not coming back, then hurried over to a pointing to a knobbed ring which re- rectly in my path. With a smile he Aunt Josephine hurried in. posed on the black velvet of the case. stopped before me, rabbing both hands together. "Is it for Miss Elaine?" he asked.

I nodded.

By this time several of the guests, who completed her purchases, they drove to from my grasp. My face must have shown my surprise. A burst of laughter Kennedy. ind me made me start and turn quickly. able to say anything, for the joke was nedy and betrayed Bennett. We had seen plate with the ice was back in my hand.

Meanwhile Kennedy had been moving from one to another of the guests, seek-

"Won't you take this ice?" he asked. "It is very kind of you," she said, "but I have already sent Walter for one."

Kennedy insisted, and she took it. She had already started to eat it when I appeared in the doorway. I was rather vexed at Long Sin for having delayed me, and I mumbled something about it. Kennedy laughed, rather pleased at having beaten me.

"Never mind, Walter," he said with a Chatting with animation, Kennedy

the crooked streets stands a policeman, which he had been robbed, and which couple of spoonsfuls when a look of wonder and horror seemed to spread over

almost refused to respond. His tongue Elaine turned to him surprised. "Do seemed to be paralyzed, and the muscles you mean that you are a magician?" she of his throat seemed to be like steel

Long Sin smiled, quietly. He reached He took only a few steps, began to over and took a small bottle from Ken- stagger, and finally sank down on the

"What's the matter, old man?" I asked, bending over him. There was no answer, but he managed to turn his head, and I followed the direction of his eyes.

With trembling finger he was tracing out, one by one, some letters. I looked, and it flashed over me what he meant. He had written with the water: "Distalin-lab---"

I jumped up, and almost without a word dashed out of the conservatory, down the hall and into the first car waiting outside. Fortunately there was no one to stop

us, and I knew we broke all the speed laws of New York. I dashed into the laboratory, almost broke open the cabinet and seized the bottle of digitalin and a hypodermic syrings, then rushed madly out again and into the car. I scarcely waited for the car to stop in front of the house. I opened the door

and rushed in. Without a word I thrust the antidote and the syringe into the hands of the move like lightning. Among other doctor, and he went to work immediately.

The antidote had been given in time. by the narrow escape which he had had, "This is wonderful, wonderful," I re- and, naturally, even the next morning,

would have forgotten anything.

laboratory as usual.

"Do you remember what became of the locked the door, bottle of digitalin?" he asked, fumbling in the closet.

Mechanically I felt in my own pocket; Long Sin bowed again, spreading out It was not there. I shook my head, "I don't seem to remember what became of it-perhaps we left it there. In fact, we must have left it there." "I don't like to have such things lying

ing up his hat and cont with forced en- get it from you was to bring you here." ergy. "I think we had better get it." night after the attempt to poison her ment in surprise, then at the maneding sent him sprawling on the marble floor. which had miscarried and resulted in Chinaman, and turned quickly. She ran Then he slammed the door and the elepolsoning Kennedy,

had already started to take down the is no way to get out," he murmured. der the direction of Aunt Josephine.

thing startling had happened. "It was Jameson," she cried, almost fropping the receiver, overcome.

Mr. Kennedy and he were visiting that "Elaine," she cried, "look out! They Chinaman this morning and Mr. Kennedy have knives." is on the tabaret in the library. Marie, forward, managed to slam the door and nedy threw himself at Long Sin. They She thanked me, and I hurried off. As will you look for it? And, Jennings, get lock it. the car right away."

Jennings hurried from the room, and to pry it open. aged to escape further congratulations a moment later Marie had found the While they were at work on the door, head They entered, and were greeted with a of the guests. Just then a waiter passed bottle behind some ornaments on the which was already swaying. Aunt Jose-

Scarcely knowing what to do, Elaine, ing to find an outlet from the room. followed by Aunt Josephine, had rushed was what might have been called a Chinese fence for stolen goods.

an ice from the tray and retreated back from the house, hatless and coatless, just the windows were locked. of the portieres. No one was about, and as the car swung around from the "I don't know why they were locked." garage in the rear. Jennings went out whispered Aunt Josephine, "but they and, with Kennedy's aid, selected a On the bottle was a Chinese label. He with the wraps. They seized them and won't get it. Give it to me, Elaine." mission to carry out this scheme, so he number of Chinese hangings and dec-palmed the bottle, and anyone who had leaped into the car, which started off

they pulled up before the apartment house other Chinamen rushed in where Wu had taken the suite from which Long Sin had telephoned the mes- and Aunt Josephine. Kennedy went directly from the lab- Long Sin lived, leaped out of the car

oratory to the Dodge house. I don't think I ever saw such an ex-

"Is Miss Elaine in?" asked Kennedy-Jennings was even too dumfounded to through the front room.

"Why, what's the matter?" demanded nanaged to blurt out

"Ill again?" repeated Kennedy. "Why," explained Jennings, "didn't Mr. ameson just now telephone that you had had a relapse in the apartment of that Chinaman, and for Miss Elaine to hurry over there right away with that Sin. They struggled furiously. bottle of medicine?"

Kennedy waited to hear no more. Selzing me by the arm, he turned and dashed down the steps and back again into the taxicab in which we had come.

ing his secretary and another Chinaman outside room seized a Tong axe from the the most explicit instructions. As he wall.

at seeing my old friend restored that I Chinese dirk concealed under his blouse, had picked up the first thing handy, Kennedy looked rather wan and The secretary opened it and Aunt Jo- it over the head of my Chinaman, then peaked, but insisted on going to the sephine and Elaine almost ran in. Be- turned and dashed out after Long Sin

"Where is Mr. Kennedy?" demanded Elaine.

his hands, palms outward.

"Mr. Kennedy? He is not here." two women squarely.

"You have a ring that means much to around loose," remarked Kennedy, tak- me," he said quickly. "The only way to were behind him on the flight of stairs. Elaine had spent rather a sleepless Elaine's finger. She looked at it a mo- was open, seized the elevator boy and to the door. It was locked.

To keep her mind off the thing, she Long Sin, motionless, smiled. "There decorations. Jennings and Marie, as well Aunt Josephine was standing now with He leaped into the other elevator, and as a couple of workmen, were restoring her boak to the door leading into an- before the suprised boy could interfere the library to its normal condition, un- other room. She happened to look up and shot it up only a few feet behind Long saw the secretary, who was near her and Sin. The telephone rang, and Elaine half turned away. From where she was

up his sleeve. She acted instantly. Without a word she summoned all her strength and roof itself. They all hurried to her. "He says that struck him. The secretary stumbled.

suffered a relapse—is dying there, in the Before Elaine knew it Aunt Josephine come quickly and bring that medicine her into the back room, and, although from him and followed. that they used last night. He says it Long Sin and the others had rushed

phine and Elaine were running about try- he tripped on the very edge of the roof There seemed to be no way out. Even mansard.

"I don't know why they want the ring," She almost seized the ring, hiding it in her waist. As she did so the door ment house to the building across the

A second later they had seized Elaine Kennedy and I dashed up before the apartment house in which we knew that

and hurried in. It was on the second floor, and we did pression of surprise on anybody's face not walt for the elevator, but took the

broken lock gave way and we rushed in No one was there, but in a back room we could hear someone. It was Elaine and Aunt Josephine struggling with the "Then-er-you are not ill again?" he Chinamen. Long Sin and the others had trying to help her just as we rushed in With a blow Kennedy knocked out the secretary, while I struggled with the other Chinamen, who blocked our way. Then Kennedy went directly at Long

Lorg Sin, with his wonderful knowledge of jiu jitsu, might not have been a match for six other Chinamen, but he was for one white man. With a mighty effort he threw Kennedy, rushed for the In Wu's apartment Long Sin was giv- door, and as he passed through the

As for myself, I had been so overloyed finished each nedded and showed him a Afraid of the wonderful jiu jitsu. I Just then a knock sounded at the door. which was a tabaret. I literally broke fore they knew it, the secretary had just as Kennedy picked himself up and followed.

In the main hall of the apartment house were two elevator shafts facing the street entrance, some twenty-five or thirty feet away. Through the street door the janitor and two or three other men were Then, straightening up, he faced the running in. They had heard the noise of the fighting above.

Escape to the street was cut off. We Long Sin did not hesitate a moment. He was pointing now at the ring on He ran to the elevator, the door of which vator shot up.

Kennedy was only a few feet behind. and he took in the situation at a glance.

It was a wild race to the roof. Long answered it. Her face showed that some- standing she could see the murderous dirk Sin had the start, and as the elevator reached the top floor he flung it open, dashed out and through a door up to the

A second later Kennedy's elevator stopped. Craig leaped out and fired his last shot at the legs of Long Sin as he disappeared at the top of the flight of Chinaman's apartment. He wants us to had taken her by the arm and dragged stairs to the roof. He flung the revolver

Without a moment's hesitation Kenstruggled with each other. Finally Long The Chinamen set to work immediately Sin managed to wrench one arm loose and raise the Tong axe over Kennedy's

Kennedy dodged back. As he did so and went sliding down the slates of the Fortunately he was able to catch him-

self in the gutter. It was the opportunity that Long Sin wanted. He started across the rope which he had stretched from this apart-It was only a matter of minutes when burst open and Wu, Long Sin and the court, with all the definess of the most expert Chinese acrobat.

Long Sin had reached the roof on the opposite side as we ran across in the direction of the taut rope. A moment later he turned and bowed at

(Continued on Page Twelve-Col. Two.)

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